

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 AID-05 EB-07 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 STR-04

OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00 AGR-05 (ISO) W
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P R 161650Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5691

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 0357

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, PO, FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH AND EC ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL

REF: 75 PARIS 33086

1. FOR PARIS: APPRECIATE EMBASSY PARIS' EFFORTS REPORTED REFTEL. ALTHOUGH GOP APPARENTLY HAS NOT PROGRESSED SIGNIFICANTLY IN DEFINING POSSIBILITIES FOR ADDITIONAL FRENCH BILATERAL ASSISTANCE, GOP'S CURRENT PRIORITY NEED IS AN INCREASE IN INTERNATIONAL LIQUIDITY TO COVER FOOD AND INDUSTRIAL IMPORTS. GOP MAY BE ABLE TO ASSIST IN THIS REGARD WITHOUT SERIOUSLY STRAINING ITS BUDGETARY LIMITS. FRANCE HAS BEEN SIGNIFICANT SOURCE OF PORTUGUESE FOOD PURCHASES, E.G. WHEAT, BARLEY AND POTATOES. IF FRANCE CAN PROVIDE THESE ITEMS DURING NEXT FEW MONTHS UNDER MEDIUM TO LONG-TERM CREDITS, IT WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY CONTRIBUTE MEASURABLY TO EASING GOP LIQUIDITY PROBLEM. IF THIS POSSIBILITY APPEARS REALISTIC, EMBASSY PARIS REQUESTED DISCUSS IT WITH APPROPRIATE GOF OFFICIALS.

2. FOR USMISSION EC BRUSSELS: EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS FROM AMBASSADOR CARLUCCI DISCUSSIONS IN BRUSSELS THAT EC MAINTAINS CONFIDENTIAL

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SIDERABLE FOOD STOCKS, NOTABLY BUTTER AND BEEF. WOULD EC BE

DISPOSED TO SELL PORTUGAL THESE ITEMS UNDER MEDIUM TO LONGER-
TERM CREDITS? EC BRUSSEL'S COMMENTS ON THIS SUBJECT, AND IN-
DICATION OF VOLUME AND VARIETY OF STOCKS, WOULD BE APPRECIATED.
IF GENUINE POSSIBILITY EXISTS FOR SUCH EC CREDITS, WE WILL RAISE
THIS SUBJECT WITH GOP.
CARLUCCI

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